(a) whether the Union Government has blamed the State Governments for their failure to increase public spending on education to 6 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government's expenditure on the education sector has increased while the expenditure by the States has declined;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to take any effective steps to ensure increase in spending by the States on education; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) While public expenditure on education as percentage of GDP by Central Government has increased from 0.67% in 2001-02 to 0.91% (Provisional) in 2007-08, the share of States has declined during this period from 3.13% in 2001-02 to 2.73% (Provisional) in 2007-08.

(c) to (e) Expenditure on education in absolute terms has increased over the years by centre as well as States. During Eleventh Plan also, an allocation of Rs.2,69,873 crore has been provided to Ministry of Human Resource Development, which is 4.6 fold increase over Tenth Plan expenditure of Rs.58817 crore. This substantial increase in central plan outlay for education represents a very substantial effort on the part of the Central Government towards raising public spending on education towards the goal of spending 6% of GDP for education. Overall progress towards this goal would however, also depend on the efforts made by the States. A number of schemes have been initiated by Centre during Eleventh Plan to incentivise expenditure by States such as (i) Setting up of 374 new model degree colleges (ii) Incentivising State Governments for expansion, inclusion and excellence (iii) Special assistance to upgrade institutions which could not get assistance under section 12B of UGC Act, due to not being eligible due to poor infrastructure (iv) National Mission in Education through ICT etc.

Distance mode of education by open/deemed universities

1110. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the open universities and deemed universities are conducting distance mode of education by setting up out of the campus centres;

(b) if so, the details of such universities;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some universities got post-facto approval from Distance Education Council (DEC) without having proper permission from the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other concerned bodies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action that has been contemplated or proposed to be contemplated by his Ministry on such universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Open Universities and Deemed Universities as well as other dual mode Universities which are offering distance education programmes, are conducting distance mode of education through out of the campus centres. In the distance mode of education, in order that the students do not have to come to the University campus for attending classes, study centres are established at various locations within the jurisdiction of the University, where students can attend contact classes and clarify their doubts after going through the self study materials.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A meeting of Chairpersons of University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and Distance Education Council (DEC) was convened last year with Secretary, Department of Higher Education, wherein it was decided that the approval granted by DEC (including ex-post approval) must be reviewed. The University Grants Commission has conveyed to the Vice-Chancellors of 18 deemed Universities that the approval should be granted by DEC to courses and not to the Institutes, and DEC was also requested to give approval strictly as per the provisions contained in the MoU signed between UGC, AICTE and DEC. The relevant clause of the MoU states that "The letter of approval may be issued by the Joint Committee. The letter should explicitly state that this has the approval of UGC, AICTE and DEC. The letter should be jointly signed by Secretary, UGC, Member Secretary, AICTE and Director, DEC".

Control of UGC over State Universities

1111. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the universities set up by the enactment of State Legislatures during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has provided any guidelines to the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) what is the control exercised by the University Grants Commission (UGC) on such institutions;

(e) whether the UGC can withdraw its recognition from such private universities; and

(f) if so, under what conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) At Statement is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).